

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for indicating that claims 8 and 23 are allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 1, 2, 4-10, 12-14, 16, 17, 19-22, and 24-28 remain pending in the instant application. Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9, 10, 12-14, 16, 17, 19-22, and 24-28 presently stand rejected. Claims 13 and 16 are amended herein. Claims 15 and 23 are hereby cancelled without prejudice. Entry of this amendment and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Statement of Common Ownership

The present patent application and Patent Publication No. US 2004/0264479 A1 to Raghunandan, were, at the time the invention of the present application was made, owned by or subject to an obligation of assignment to Intel Corporation of Santa Clara, California.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-6, 10-12, 15, 16, 25, and 27-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kumar (US 2004/0028040 A1) in view of Raghunandan (US 2004/0264479 A1).

Claims 7, 9, 17-22, and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kumar in view of Raghunandan and Du (US 5,694,591).

Claims 13 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kumar in view of Du and Matthew (US 2004/0006639 A1).

Claim 26 stands rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kumar in view of Choe (US 2002/011862).

Independent Claim 1, 10, 13, and 25

“Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under one or more of subsection (e), (f), and (g) of section 102 of this title, **shall not preclude patentability under this section** where the subject matter and the claimed

invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.” 35 U.S.C. § 103(c) (emphasis added).

Applicants kindly bring to the attention of the Examiner that both Raghunandan and the instant application were at the time the present invention was made, both owned by or under an obligation of assignment to Intel Corporation of Santa Clara, California. Therefore, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 103(c), Raghunandan may not be relied upon to preclude patentability under § 103(a). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the instant § 103(a) rejections of independent claims 1, 10, and 25 be withdrawn.

Independent claim 13 has been amended simply to include the subject matter of dependent claim 15 (now cancelled) without substantive changes. Since dependent claim 15 was rejected under 103(a) based in part upon Raghunandan, 103(c) also precludes the assertion of this rejection against amended independent claim 13. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the instant § 103(a) rejection of independent claim 13 be withdrawn.

Independent Claim 16

Amended independent claim 16 now includes the subject matter of dependent claim 23 (now canceled) deemed allowable by the Examiner. Accordingly, independent claim 16 now includes allowable subject matter. Withdrawal of the rejection of independent claim 16 is respectfully solicited.

Dependent Claims

The dependent claims are nonobvious over the prior art of record for at least the same reasons as discussed above in connection with their respective independent claims, in addition to adding further limitations of their own. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the instant § 103 rejections of the dependent claims be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that the applicable rejections have been overcome and all claims remaining in the application are presently in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned representative at (206) 292-8600 if the Examiner believes that an interview might be useful for any reason.

CHARGE DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

It is not believed that extensions of time are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a). Any fees required therefore are hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-2666. Please credit any overpayment to the same deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

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/Cory G. Claassen/

Cory G. Claassen
Reg. No. 50,296
Phone: (206) 292-8600

1279 Oakmead Parkway
Sunnyvale, CA 94085-4040